

Message Text

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SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTRY REORGANIZATION

1. THE ANNUAL CHANGE-OVER OF PERSONNEL IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAS THIS YEAR ACCOMPANIED BY A REORGANIZATION WHICH HAS ESTABLISHED A NEW BUREAUCRATIC LAYER AT THE SENIOR LEVEL. THE PREVIOUS ORGANIZATION OF THE MINISTRY CONSISTED OF THE MINISTER, THE SECRETARY GENERAL, TEN DIRECTORATES GENERAL PLUS SEVERAL SPECIALIZED OFFICES. IN THE NEW ORGANIZATION SIX DEPUTY SECRETARIES GENERAL HAVE BEEN INSERTED BETWEEN THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE DIRECTORS GENERAL. THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORATES GENERAL HAS BEEN INCREASED FROM 10 TO 12.

2. SUBORDINATE TO THE DIRECTORATES GENERAL ARE THE VARIOUS OFFICES WHICH ARE HEADED BY A DIRECTOR. THE REORGANIZATION HAS HAD LITTLE EFFECT ON THE OFFICERS AT THE DIRECTOR LEVEL EXCEPT TO INCREASE THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THEM AND THE MINISTER AND SECRETARY GENERAL.

3. THE INCUMBENTS OF THE SIX NEW DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL
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POSITIONS ARE: PROTOCOL, ALI BINKAYA; POLITICAL, PERTEV

SUBASI; ECONOMIC, NAZIF CUHRUK; ADMINISTRATIVE, FAHIR ALACAM; CULTURE AND INFORMATION, VAHAP ASIROGLU; AND COLLECTIVE SECURITY, HAMIT BATU. OF THESE, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS APPEARS TO BE THE FIRST AMONG EQUALS. UNDER HIS CONTROL ARE FOUR DIRECTORATES GENERAL--BILATERAL, MULTILATERAL, CYPRUS AND GREECE, AND RESEARCH AND PLANNING. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL FOR INFORMATION AND CULTURE ALSO HAS FOUR SUBORDINATE DIRECTORATES GENERAL--CULTURE, INFORMATION, CONSULAR AFFAIRS, AND TURKISH PROPERTY ABOARD. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS HAS TWO SUBORDINATE DIRECTORATES GENERAL--BILATERAL, AND INTERNATIONAL AND SOCIAL. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS SUPERVISES DIRECTORATES GENERAL FOR PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION. THE DEPUTY SECRETARIES GENERAL FOR PROTOCOL AND COLLECTIVE SECURITY HAVE NO SUBORDINATE DIRECTORATES GENERAL.

4. THE RATIONALE FOR THE REORGANIZATION IS TO LIGHTEN THE WORKLOAD OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL BY PROVIDING HIM WITH MORE SENIOR ADVISORS. ALTHOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE CREATION OF A NEW BUREAUCRATIC LAYER WILL IN FACT INSULATE ELEKDAG FROM SOME OF THE DAY TO DAY PRESSURES HE WAS PREVIOUSLY SUBJECTED TO, THE OFFICERS AT THE DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVEL IN THE MFA ARE SKEPTICAL THAT IT WILL IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE MINISTRY AND ARE IN VARYING DEGREES DISTRESSED BY THE FACT THAT THE NEW ORGANIZATION PUTS THEM ONE STEP FURTHER AWAY FROM THE LEADERSHIP. SOME OF THESE OFFICERS GRUMBLE THAT THE ONLY REASON FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL LEVEL IS TO CREATE JOBS FOR UNEMPLOYED SENIOR OFFICERS.

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